

Ted P. and Vicki E. Beck
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Jeff S. Jordan
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street W
Washington, DC 20463

FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
2012 DEC -6 AM 10:28
OFFICE OF
COUNSEL

November 27th, 2012

Reference: Your letters dated November 1st, 2012
MUR 6674

Dear Mr. Jordan:

I am in receipt of your letter dated 11/01/2012. It was sent to the wrong address. Once resent, my wife and I received the complaint yesterday, 11/26/2012.

This letter is written in reply to both the letter addressed to me, and a similar letter my wife received, having the same MUR reference number **6674**.

For the record, we have elected to make an informal response to your letter without benefit of counsel given the absurdity of the complaint. Should this action on your part go beyond this response, then we reserve the right to obtain counsel.

Response to the Complaint:

1. In paragraph three of part A - Factual Allegations ... it is alleged that certain statements were made by Ted Beck to Yellowstone Public Radio on October 9, 2012. The statements were taken out of context and do not represent the total conversation that occurred.
2. In paragraph four of part A - Factual Allegations ...there is an extensive narrative referencing the value of the **"luxury bus"**. This bus, built in 1999, may have been considered a luxury bus when it was new. When I purchased the used bus a few years ago I paid \$200,000 for it. The current value of the bus is less than \$150,000 (if requested, I can provide a letter to that effect). To determine the value of the bus, charter bus companies here in Montana were contacted to determine the daily value of the rental of a similarly valued bus. After deducting the driver and fuel costs, the bus daily rental was valued at \$365.00/day. I can think of no scenario that would warrant a \$2000/day rental fee plus fuel costs for my **"luxury bus"**.

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There is no place in this country that I am aware of where you can rent a bus similarly equipped as this bus on a daily/monthly basis. As a comparison to the rental of a bus, if one were to rent a luxury car (which would be valued at greater than \$50,000 from a rental company) you would find the car rental would be in the range of \$75 to \$100/day (therefore three luxury cars would be less approximately \$300/day). Three luxury cars valued at greater than \$150,000 would equal the value of the "luxury bus" and would cost you \$300 as compared to \$365 for the bus - hardly the \$2000/day as stated in the complaint.

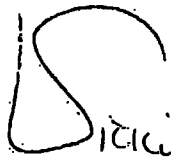
3. I have invoiced The Montanans for Rehberg for the use of my bus during the campaign in the amount of \$9,185.38 and I have been reimbursed. This amount represents the total value of the bus use less the legal combined in kind contribution of \$5,000 that my wife and I are allowed to contribute. (upon request I can provide the Commission with an itemized invoice which references actual odometer mileage of bus during the campaign to include days used, fuel purchased, and any additional expenses incurred by me)

In conclusion, I understand the seriousness of this complaint and am more than happy to respond. Once you have reviewed this matter I am confident that you will find the complaint is without merit and should be dismissed. **If it is within your authority I am requesting that you take punitive action against Preston Elliott and Montanans for Tester for having filed this frivolous complaint based on falsehoods and misrepresentations.** It is clear to me that Preston Elliott filed this complaint for its negative publicity value and **clearly knew at the time of filing it was without merit.** The good and necessary work that the Commission does under the authority granted by law should not be misused. In effect the Commission is as much a victim of the abuse of a knowingly false complaint as my wife and I are.

Respectfully submitted,



Theodore P. Beck, DMD



Vicki E. Beck